



At the COURT at WHITEHAL,

The Third Day of May, 1672.

(28.)

P R E S E N T,

The KINGS Most Excellent MAJESTY,

His Highness Prince *Rupert*,
Lord Keeper,
Duke of *Buckingham*,
Duke of *Lauderdale*,
Duke of *Ormond*,
Marquess of *Worcester*,
Earl of *Bridgewater*,
Earl of *Essex*,
Earl of *Anglesey*,
Earl of *Bathe*,
Earl of *Carlisle*,
Earl of *Craven*,

Earl of *Arlington*,
Earl of *Shaftsbury*,
Earl of *Carbery*,
Viscount *Fauconberge*,
Viscount *Hallifax*,
Lord Bishop of *London*,
Lord *Holles*,
Lord *Clifford*,
Mr. Secretary *Trevor*,
Sir *John Duncombe*,
Mr. Chancellor of the Dutchy,
Master of the Ordnance,

Sir *Thomas Osborne*.



WHERAS the Consideration of the most effectual Ways and Means of having the City of London sufficiently supplied with Coals at Reasonable Rates during the present War with the Dutch, was by His Majesties Order in Council the 17th of April last past, referred to the Lords of His Majesties most Honourable Privy Council, appointed a Committee for Trade, &c. In pursuance whereof their Lordships did call before them as well the Lord Maior, and certain of the Court of Aldermen, as several persons interested in the Coal Trade, as Owners of Ships, Woodmongers, and others; and having enquired as far into the true State and Condition of this Trade as they could for their own Information, their Lordships thought fit that the Lord Maior and Court of Aldermen should on their part consider amongst themselves, and propose to the Committee what Methods and Provisions they thought most effectual, as well for the carrying on of the Coal Trade for the furnishing the Market at the Pool, as for preventing the abuses that are found to be afterwards committed, whether by the Owners and Masters of Ships, or the Woodmongers and Retailers: Which accordingly they did, giving their Lordships the following Report of the 23d of April, therein delibering their Opinions, That the best and most effectual Way and Means would be, if His Majesty would please to declare, That all Ships, as well foreigners as English, that will follow the Coal Trade, shall have a competent number of men protected from being Impressed into His Majesties Service for the War, on these Conditions following.

I. That the Owners and Masters shall give Security by Bond, that they will use no other Trade but that of bringing Coals directly to be discharged in the River of *Thames*.

II. That to the end His Majesties Protection may not be abused by diverting more men from His Majesties Service than are absolutely necessary to Navigate the Coal Ships, that the *Trinity-House* may certify what number of men are sufficient to each Ship, and the Protection limited to that number.

III. That if any Ship or Vessel laden with Coals, shall not within twenty days after his arrival on this side *Gravesend*, sell and dispose of his Coals, he shall be obliged to land them on such Wharfs in or near the City, as the Court of Aldermen shall appoint, paying moderate Rate for the Wharfage. And that all persons whosoever that shall be employed in the measuring, heaving and landing of Coals, (not being Seamen) may be exempted from being Impressed for the War.

Which Proposals their Lordships having taken into Consideration, did this day Report unto His Majesty in Council their humble Opinion thereupon:

That His Majesty would please to declare by Order of Council, That so soon as the Fleet shall be at Sea, His Majesty will allow the Coal Trade to proceed under the Conditions and Cautions offered by the City in the aforesaid Proposal.

And that forasmuch as one principal Cause why Ships in the River do not unlade, so as to keep the Market well furnished with Coals, is alledged to be, that the ordinary Porters, Labourers and Lighter-men, that usually work on the unlading the Colliers, are Pressed from them; that His Majesty would please to grant that such persons (not being Seamen or Watermen) may be exempted from the Press.

Which Proposals of the Lord Maior and Court of Aldermen, as likewise the Report of the Lords of the Committee, being this day fully considered and debated, His Majesty present in Council, did approve and allow of the same in every particular thereof; and it was thereupon Ordered by His Majesty in Council, That the Lord Maior and Court of Aldermen do cause this Order to be speedily published, put in execution, and observed accordingly.

EDW. WALKER.

Waterman



Maior.

Martis septimo die Maii 1672. Annoque Regni Regis CAROLI Secundi, Angliæ, &c. Vicesimo quarto.

In obedience to His Majesties Order aboves-written, it is Ordered by this Court, That this be forthwith Printed and Published.

WAGSTAFFE.

(29.)

Printed by *Andrew Clark*, Printer to the Honourable City of *LONDON*,
at his House in *Aldersgatestreet*. MDCLXXII.